

REMARKS

It seems that the Examiner agrees that in Cheng the "group of mobile terminals is always attached to a signaling channel" but he considers that this does not mean that "each individual mobile terminal in the network is always attached .to a signaling channel". In order to prove this, the Examiner states that a "mobile terminal may be denied a signaling channel assignment" and cites col. 8 lines 16-55 of Cheng.

However, the above passage of Cheng does not refer to denying a "channel assignment" to the remote terminal but to denying authorization to "the remote terminal from entering the network" (col. 8 lines 23-26 and 53-55). Furthermore the authorization process relates to registration of a "newly registering terminal" and if the remote terminal is authorized, then the process of assigning a channel follows (col. 8 lines 19-22). A registration process also follows after a "channel failure recovery process" for a terminal who has experienced failure. It is clear from these passages that once a terminal is authorized to enter in to the network, a channel is then assigned to it. In fact, the authorization is based on availability of channels (col. 8 lines 35-53) which necessarily means that denial occurs when all channels are occupied, even though they do not need to send a message.

Thus, according to Cheng, once a remote terminal is authorized to enter in the network, it is always assigned to a channel. Not being authorized means not being in the network and obviously, neither the solution taught by Cheng nor that of the claimed invention are concerned with terminals which are not in the network. However, the Examiner has relied on a passage that refers to terminals which are not authorized and thus are not in the network.

Response to Advisory Action
USSN 09/598,896

The fact that the remote terminals are always assigned to a channel is repeatedly emphasized and claimed in Cheng, as discussed in more detail at pages 8-9 of the Amendment filed November 9, 2005.

The direct consequence from the teaching of Cheng is in fact a drawback that the present invention attempts to avoid, namely avoiding unnecessary occupation of channels (in other words, the invention attempts to provide higher channel availability) when a remote unit does not have a message to send (pages 3 lines 2-11 of the original description).

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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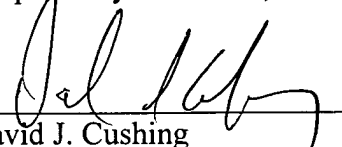
WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 9, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


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